

# **Guidelines For International Participants: Office Of Naval Research Global Naval International Cooperative Opportunities In Science and Technology Program (NICOP) – Draft**

Revised On **15 Jan 03** for the **Selection Process**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:** NICOP is a funding mechanism to encourage int'l collaboration in Science & Technology (S&T) for the mutual benefit of the US Navy and int'l participants. NICOP is managed by the ONRG (ONR GLOBAL) by actively seeking Non-US complimentary strengths in S&T with the intent of setting up collaborative programs. NICOP is a means of initiating int'l S&T collaboration, establishing working relationships, and leveraging the benefits of int'l programs. Through capitalization, mutual respect and staff interaction will lead to further collaboration and long-term relationships, to the mutual benefit of all participants and their national interests. Through NICOP, the U.S. can provide up to 100% of research funding for programs of up to 3-years. In FY2003, \$1.5 M was made available for NICOP funding. From 65 requests received, 25 were selected for funding. Guidelines for submitting FY2004 NICOP requests are available at <http://www.onrglobal.navy.mil> and detailed below.

**NICOP AWARDS ARE COMPETITIVE . ONR GLOBAL staff is there to help you.**

1. **OBJECTIVE:** NICOP is intended to:
  - a. Augment US Navy S&T Thrusts;
  - b. Address other stated DoN S&T needs;
  - c. Develop long-term relationships between ONR & int'l S&T providers;
  - d. Establish relationships with the next generation of int'l S&T leaders.
2. **ONR GLOBAL MISSION:** to serve as the Navy resource for enhancing global S&T connectivity. Mechanisms for fulfilling this mission include:
  - a. Liaison visits by ONR GLOBAL staff to S&T organizations outside the US, leading to assessment and reporting.
  - b. Financial support in the form of:
    - i. **Science and Technology Engagement Program (STEP)** – providing financial support for visits between int'l and US researchers

## **ONR NAVY- WIDE PRIORITIES**

*NICOP will consider requests in all disciplines, but special attention will be provided to FY2002 NICOP requests that address the following ONR high priority disciplines:*

Naval architecture & shipbuilding  
(including electric warship).

Communications, command & control,  
computer science and electronics,  
optics and radar

Human factors, knowledge-based &  
learning sciences.

Atmospheric & space sciences,  
oceanography, including underwater  
acoustics.

Materials sciences.

Manufacturing technologies.

Bio-sciences/Naval Medical.

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- ii. **Conference Support Program (CSP)** – providing financial support for int'l workshops/conferences
- iii. **Naval Int'l Cooperative Opportunities in Science and Technology Program (NICOP)** – providing financial support for collaborative S&T programs, that in turn support disciplines of Navy interest.

*Although participation in the VSP & CSP is not essential to a successful NICOP submission, they can be helpful.*

- c. ONR GLOBAL has over 50-years experience in a wide range of technologies, as well as working with Int'l researchers throughout the world. Upon initial contact the Int'l researcher will be provided contact with a member of ONR GLOBAL's staff who will assess and promote their interests. Having established this support, ONR GLOBAL will communicate with USN Program Officers (PO) and Research Managers (RM), who are working in complimentary technologies, to assess the benefits of collaboration.
- d. **OBTAINING NICOP FUNDING:** Key to a successful NICOP project is putting together complimentary Int'l teams to address S&T programs of mutual interest, which have the potential to benefit U.S. Navy objectives and the int'l participant's interests. NICOP:
  - i. IS a means for initiating S&T collaboration, establishing working relationships, and leveraging the benefits of joint programs. Through capitalization, mutual respect and staff interaction will lead to on-going collaboration and long-term relationships - to the mutual benefit of all participants.
  - ii. IS NOT intended to support projects already underway. However, in cases where collaboration is already established, NICOP may be considered for supporting new ideas and for the introduction of new participants.
  - iii. IS eligible for up to 100% U.S. funding for periods of up to 3 years. However int'l contributions are also encouraged in terms of finance, staff cost, travel, documentation, provision of equipment and facilities etc.
  - iv. MAY be bilateral arrangements with the US, or multilateral.

**IF you are involved with innovative S&T**

**+ you consider your work is complementary to programs of work in the U.S.**

**+ you would like to enter a collaborative program**

**Review the ONR GLOBAL web site at [www.ehis.navy.mil](http://www.ehis.navy.mil) or contract the appropriate ONR GLOBAL Associate Director.**

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- v. IS competitive and judged on:
    - 1. technical merit
    - 2. contribution to Navy needs and DoN S&T objectives
    - 3. potential for initiating new long term collaborations that matches complementary strengths, and
    - 4. ability to provide mutual benefit to all participants and their sponsors.
  - vi. Other factors, such as prominence of collaboration with a particular nation, or technology area, have to be considered but the overriding criterion is technical merit.
3. **NICOP APPLICATION:** Assistance can be provided to formulate input to the USN PO/RM. The Int'l researcher must provide data with enough lead-time to meet the **15 JULY 2004** deadline for the formal NICOP request. When providing input to support a NICOP request, the following data is required from the Int'l participant (3 pages max):
- a. Contact details (Tel, Fax, e-mail, Postal Address).
  - b. Is work part of an existing program, or a new program, in your country?
  - c. Has in-country support for the program been established (i.e., financial, facilities, equipment), or is support in the process of being established? If yes to either, specify and give details of the organizations providing support.
  - d. Is the intent to work bilaterally with the U.S., or are their other nations? If other nations are involved, specify their input.
  - e. Provide details of: related work conducted in the past (background and history); complimentary work being conducted elsewhere; synergies and interaction with other technologies; approach; main contribution to the S&T; and if applicable, military application.
  - f. Specify technical input expected from the U.S. to compliment your program. Note: NICOP does NOT support U.S. employee's salaries or other expenses.
  - g. Provide details of proposed milestones and/or deliverables.
  - h. Identify all Intellectual Property Right issues.
  - i. **FUNDING REQUESTS:** For each year (max = 3) give:

YEAR	1	2	3
Staff Costs			
Travel Costs			
Equipment Costs			
Facilities Costs			
Total			

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- i. Staff costs: provide staff in-put, as % of a year, for each grade of participant and their associated costs to this program. Include overhead expenses.
  - ii. Travel & subsistence costs for collaborative meetings, attending conferences, workshops and other meeting – provide an overall estimated cost.
  - iii. Equipment requirements and costs – specify details
  - iv. Facilities requirements (test ranges, research vessels, computing etc) – specify details
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### **APPENDIX**

#### **1. DEFINITIONS & LINKS**

- a. CSP: Conference Support Program (<http://www.onrglobal.navy.mil/>)
- b. NRL: Naval Research Laboratory, Washington DC ([www.nrl.navy.mil](http://www.nrl.navy.mil))
- c. ONR: Office of Naval Research, Arlington VA ([www.onr.navy.mil](http://www.onr.navy.mil))
- d. ONR GLOBAL TD - TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: ([techdirector@onrglobal.navy.mil](mailto:techdirector@onrglobal.navy.mil)), responsible to the ONR GLOBAL Commanding Officer for NICOP program management. This includes updating and disseminating guidance, responding to inquiries, evaluating requests and recommending awards
- e. ONR GLOBAL: Office of Naval Research International Field Office, London UK ([www.onrglobal.navy.mil](http://www.onrglobal.navy.mil))
- f. STEP: Science and Technology Engagement Program (<http://www.onrglobal.navy.mil/>)

#### **2. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

- a. **Who may apply for a NICOP Grant?** Only ONR and/or NRL Program Sponsors may apply, but collaboration ideas can be initiated at most any level within the US or Int'l S&T community. Bottom Line: If an ONR/NRL sponsor can be convinced an int'l collaboration is worthwhile it can be submitted for evaluation.
- b. **Who initiates initial contact between the US Sponsor & the Int'l Participant?** It can be done in many ways. Normally the Int'l participant can approach ONR GLOBAL for assistance and an introduction to the correct

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ONR/NRL point of contact; (or) the US Sponsor can approach the Int'l participant directly; (or) the Int'l participant can approach the NRL/ONR Sponsor directly.

- c. **What is the difference between a NICOP Request and a NICOP Proposal?** A NICOP Request, which is addressed in this document, is the initial document presented to ONR GLOBAL that briefly describes the project to be undertaken. It is the document used to evaluate and select the final candidates for award. The NICOP Proposal is the longer, more formal document that is submitted for funding by the US and Int'l Team after being selected for a NICOP award grant.
- d. **When are FY05 NICOP Requests due to be submitted?** No later than 15 July 2004.
- e. **When are FY05 NICOP Proposals due to be funded?** As soon as possible after notification of selection, but usually within 60 days of selection (Approx. mid-Dec 2004).
- f. **How much NICOP funding is available in FY03?** The budget process is still being assessed, but funding will probably be less than FY03 when approx., \$1.5 M was available for new NICOP projects.
- g. **Can NICOP Funding Support US Participants?** NICOP funds are normally intended for the exclusive use by the Int'l participants in collaborative efforts.
- h. **Does NICOP funding have to match Non-NICOP funding year-by-year?** No. The total NICOP funding has to be equal to no more than the Non-NICOP US funding over the life of the project, but the NICOP portion can be provided as needed (e.g., all at once in the first year) with the non-NICOP funds being provided in later years.
- i. **What is the range of funds provided to an individual NICOP effort?** In FY03 there were approx. 25 new starts with a median cost of \$76K each. Some were for multi-\$100K, others much lower.
- j. **How can I improve success in being awarded a NICOP grant?** The easiest way is to establish an early and active dialog with the appropriate ONR GLOBAL Associate Director in the discipline to be addressed in the request (i.e., Naval architecture, materials, oceanography, electronics, ...).
- k. **Is there a requirement for Int'l Funding (i.e., Non-US agency contributing resources) in a NICOP Project?** No, but it is appreciated as a sign of true collaboration.

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- I. **Will NICOP Match int'l contributions or funding in a NICOP Project?** No.  
NICOP will only match other US funding?